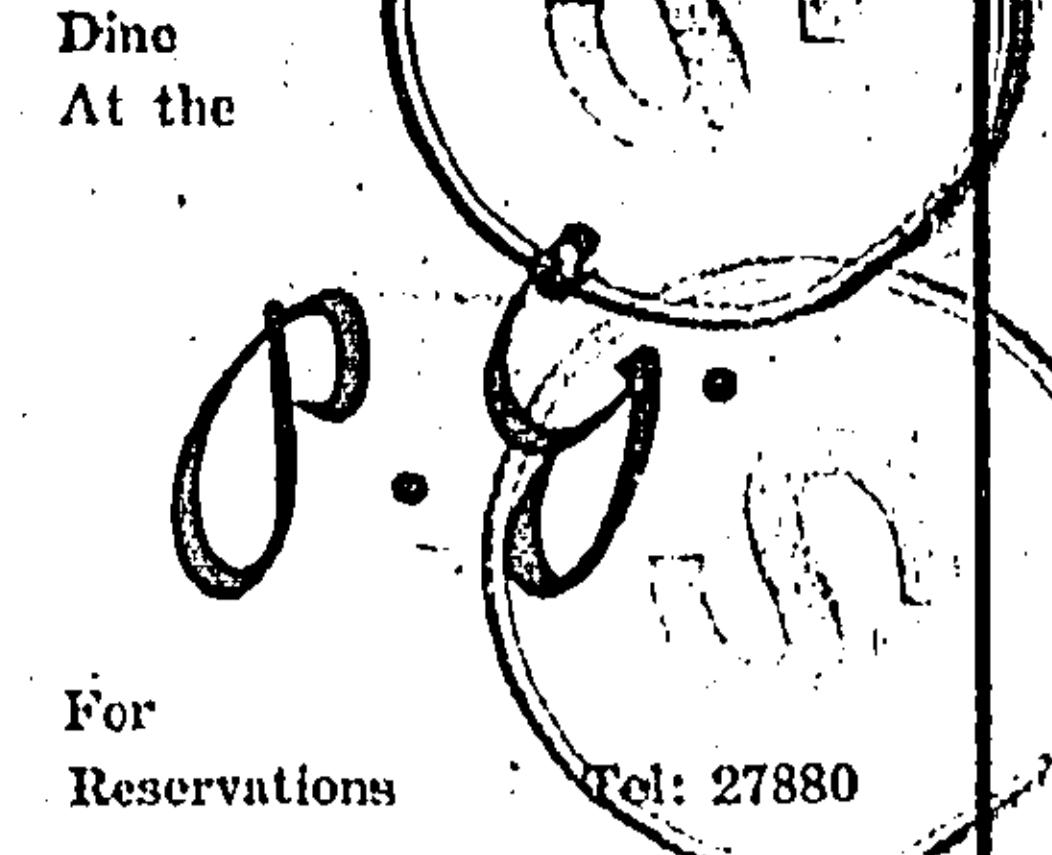




For the Proprietor of
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,
For and on Behalf of
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.
W. Hanke
Printer and Publisher



VOL. III NO. 41 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1948.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

Jewish Terrorist Shoots Two British Soldiers In Back

OUTRAGE IN CROWDED STREET

Jerusalem, Feb. 19.—Two British soldiers were shot in the back by a Jewish terrorist in a crowded main street in the heart of Jerusalem today. One died and the other was seriously wounded.

The soldiers were stated to have been strolling along the Jaffa road with their rifles slung over their shoulders when the terrorist crept up behind them and shot them with a pistol. As they collapsed, he grabbed their rifles and made off among the crowd of shoppers.

"We know that whereas the Arab League has funds, the Mufti has not, and this will enable him to improve his financial position," said the spokesman, at the same time demanding the strictest and most independent public supervision when funds are entrusted for religious purposes.

The Palestine government's transfer of £300,000 to the Supreme Moslem Council was officially announced on Wednesday under a new retroactive computation of tithes and was intended to be earmarked, a government statement said, for the maintenance of Moslem religious buildings and for the establishment of a new Moslem orphanage.—Associated Press.

ECONOMIC BOYCOTT

Cairo, Feb. 19.—A reliable source said on Thursday that the Arab League Political Committee had decided on an economic boycott against countries which support the United Nations decision to partition Palestine, and those countries which will be joining the international force which the United Nations Palestine Commission is planning to send to Palestine to implement the decision. The source added that the league decision will not be put into effect before the question of sending an international police force is finally decided.—Associated Press.

China's New Relief Levies

Hongkong Collection

Nanking, Feb. 20.—Total proceeds from "special relief levies"—China's newest source of revenue designed to tax the rich—were fixed at NC\$10,000,000,000 by the sponsoring Committee yesterday and of this amount Shanghai alone is expected to raise NC\$3,500,000,000.

The new levies are due to begin on April 1 simultaneously in all cities including Hongkong and Macao and are collectable in one lump sum.

Levies on personal properties will be 10 per cent of total value exceeding NC\$5,000,000,000 and on corporation assets 20 per cent of total value exceeding NC\$10,000,000,000.

The Committee formulated a set of rules for assessing the value of properties held.

Among other classes of people, incumbent and retired army and civil officials in possession of large personal wealth will be urged to contribute voluntarily "as an example to others."—Reuter.

Birthrate Down In England

London, Feb. 20.—The birthrate in England and Wales in 1945 was the lowest of all the principal countries of the world, except Belgium, according to official statistics published today.

The number of live births in 1945 was 679,037, equal to 15.9 per thousand of the population. This rate was lower than in 1944 or 1943, but with those exceptions higher than any rate since 1930.

Illegitimate births totalled 63,420, the highest number and percentage ever recorded in England and Wales.

A rise in the number of marriages and the continued increase in the number of divorces was recorded.

The population of England and Wales in 1945 was 42,034,000 compared with 41,460,000 in 1930.—Reuter.

"Korea May Blow Up"

Warning

MUST BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE

Report Made To UN

Lake Success, Feb. 19.—The chairman of the United Nations Korean Commission today warned the Little Assembly—which is boycotted by Russia—that Korea might "blow up" and set off a "vaster cataclysm in Asia and the world" if its people's hopes of gaining independence through the United Nations were shattered.

Mr K. P. S. Menon of India, emphasising that the Soviet authorities controlling the Northern Korean Zone had kept the Commission from organising nationwide elections, told the 51-nation interim group that for years "the Korean people have been hankering for their independence and will not brook any further delay in its consummation."

Mr Menon said his Commission had been forced to return to Lake Success to ask advice on how to proceed in face of the adamant Soviet refusal to comply with Assembly recommendations that national Korean elections be held by March 31 as a prelude to independence.

The chairman departed from the prepared text to question recent reports of a new provisional government set up in Russian-occupied Northern Korea for the purpose of wrecking United Nations efforts at establishing a national Korean government.

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TO-DAY
ONLY

KING'S

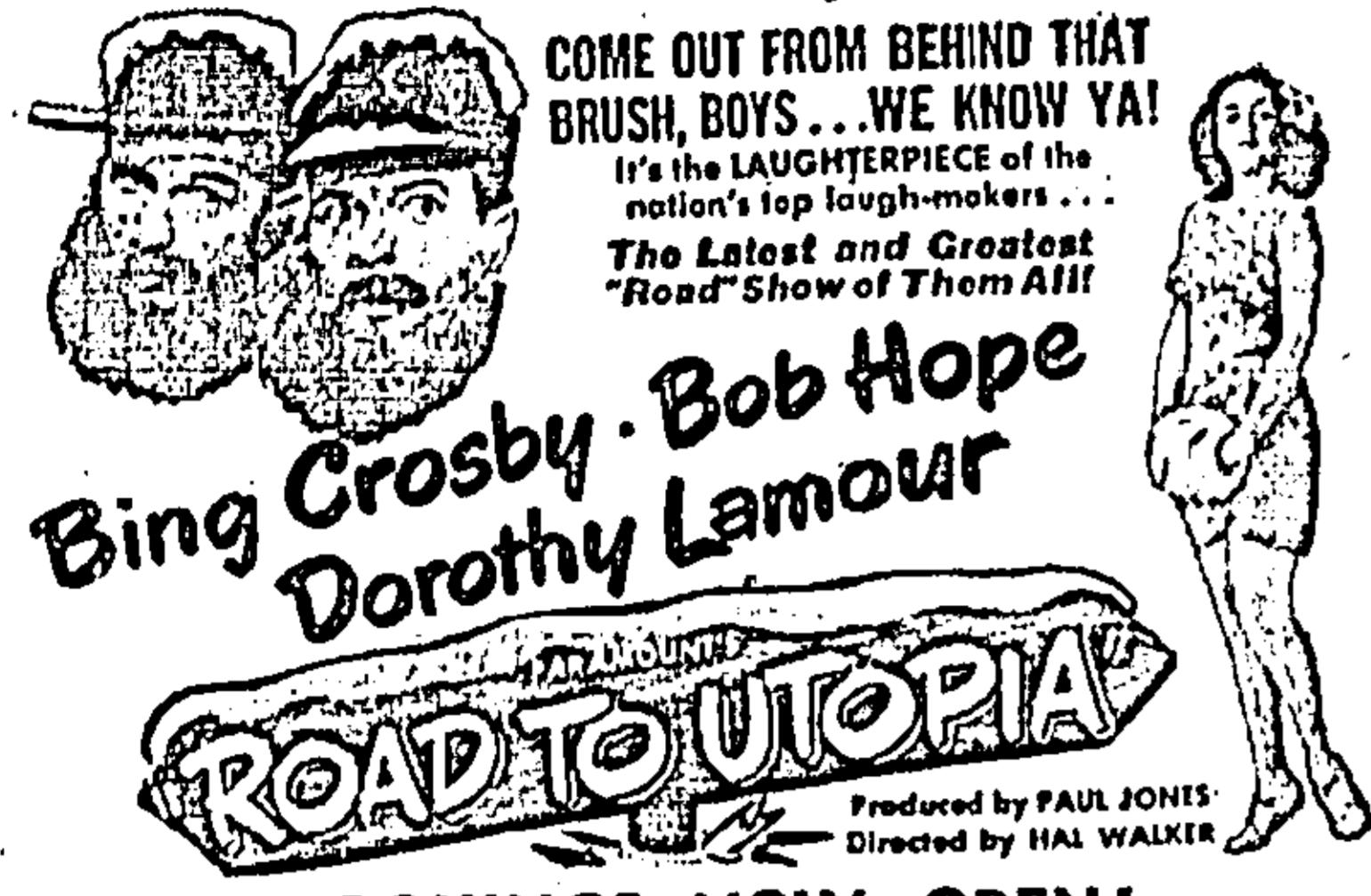
AT 2.30, 5.15,
7.20 & 9.30 p.m.



SEE IT WITH YOUR OWN HUSBAND!
COLUMBIA PICTURES presents
Lucille Ball - Desi Arnaz
Her Husband's Affairs
With EDWARD EVERETT HORTON
MIKHAIL RASUMNY - GENE LOCKHART

TO-MORROW

COME OUT FROM BEHIND THAT
BRUSH, BOYS... WE KNOW YA!
It's the LAUGHSPIECE of the
nation's top laugh-makers.
The Latest and Greatest
"Road" Show of Them All!



BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

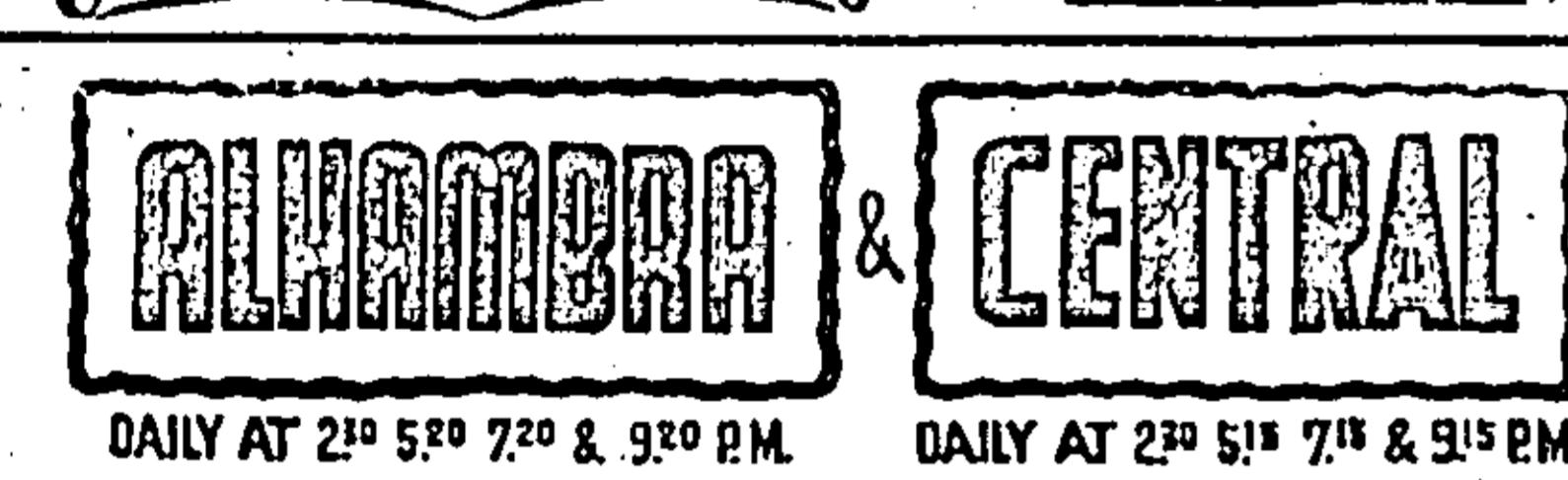
SHOWING
TO-DAY

QUEEN'S

at 2.30, 5.15,
7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

PLEASE BOOK YOUR SEATS IN ADVANCE
TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

You'll find Adventure...
Romance... Excitement...
Action... Spectacle...



DAILY AT 2nd, 5th, 7th & 9th P.M.
CENTRAL: Extra Performance at 12.30 P.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY

WARRIORS' ADVENTURE

OF THE CENTURY

OUT OF THE CENTURY

THAT MADE TEXAS GREAT!

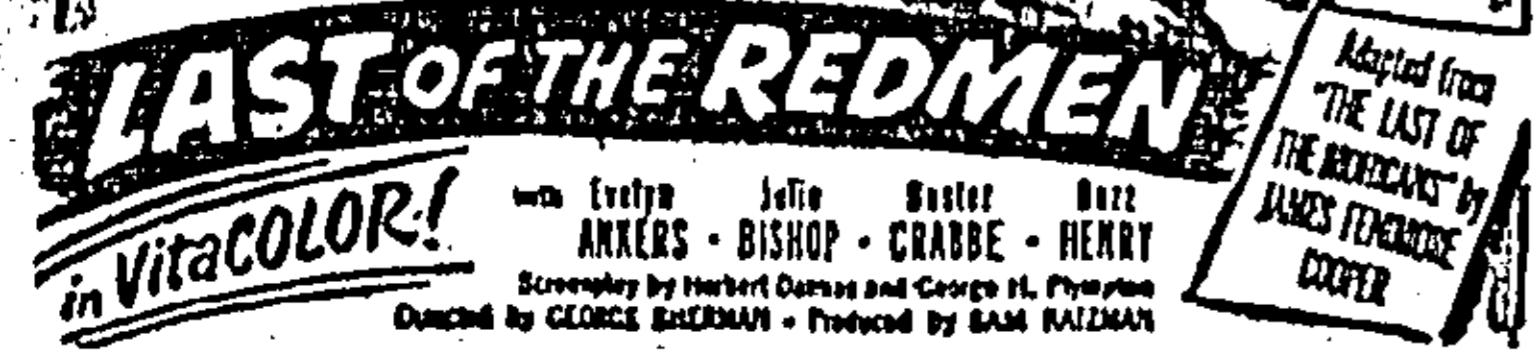


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THE WILDERNESS A STAGE FOR HEROIC ADVENTURE!
UNPARALLELED THRILLS IN INCOMPARABLE NEW
VITACOLOR!

ROMANTIC ADVENTURE
RACING ACROSS
FORBIDDEN WARPATHS!

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS

JON HALL · MICHAEL O'SHEA



LAST OF THE REDMEN
in Vitacolor!
With Evelyn Ankers · Bishop · Crabb · Henry
Directed by Robert Coen and George H. Plympton
Screenplay by Robert Coen and George H. Plympton
Directed by George Schaefer · Produced by Sam Katzman



"Don't look now, but you've just ended a sentence with a preposition!"

Hornless cows and sheep without tails

by . . . MARY BALL

CATTLE with horns will soon be as antiquated as ploughing with oxen. Already hornless or "polled" cattle are to be seen on many farms in England.

In modern milk production and dairy management farmers are finding quiet and placid cows give more milk and are less prone to disease.

A dig from another cow's horns when she is being driven in for milking will upset and worry a cow, and she may not give all the milk she should, so modern farmers are de-horning their dairy cattle.

These polled animals appear to be less spiteful, and, of course, can do no damage to other animals.

Farmers who feed their cattle in yards find they can get more dehorned than horned cattle into the same space, and they need less room when being fed from troughs.

Cattle bred for meat production are also being polled, especially in Ireland. This results in first-class, unbruised carcasses.

In many markets dehorned steers will fetch 20s. more than horned animals of the same quality.

How the horns are burned off

It is at present the custom for farmers to poll their cattle at an early age. Caustic potash has been used to remove horn from calves.

A more modern method, however, is by use of an electric hot iron.

This electric dehorning is a simple routine job, requiring little time or fuss. The iron burns off the horn, and sears a ring of tissue round the base with no damage to the calf.

Some polled breeds of cattle are already in existence, but research workers are trying to breed polled strains of all the important breeds of dairy and beef cattle, which will save all bother of dehorning.

Probably a start will be made on Ayrshire-dairy cattle. They

are generally regarded as one of the best breeds for milk production, but the horns are rather large, set wide apart, and have a characteristic upward curve.

These "hat-peg" cattle, as they are called, are becoming very popular with farmers who specialise in milk production, but their horns are a drawback to successful dairy management.

It has been suggested that the Ayrshires could be crossed with Red Polls (cattle very common in Norfolk and Suffolk) and one of the existing hornless breeds.

It may take five generations or more to produce a hundred percent polled animal as the result of this crossing.

Breeders work on new theories

Farmers who try out the method may then be able to breed polled progeny into a herd.

Dr John Hammond, of the Cambridge School of Agriculture, a foremost authority on animal genetics, is working along these lines.

Practical breeders and progressive farmers are trying to carry out Dr Hammond's theories.

If they are successful, we shall see yet another change in the characteristics of farm animals.

After 33 years, geneticists have bred a tailless sheep.

Purpose of the "no tail" sheep is to eliminate docking, which takes up many hours of the shepherd's time.

Having bred a sheep without a tail, scientists are trying to improve on the other characteristics of the animal, paying special attention to fleece and body formation.

Pigs are easy to experiment on

Scientists and breeders find that pigs are easy to experiment with. Modern breeds of pig are descended from very small and slightly built animals. Today it is possible to fatten an animal of the larger breeds to weigh 1,000lb., or to feed specially for small joints and lean bacon.

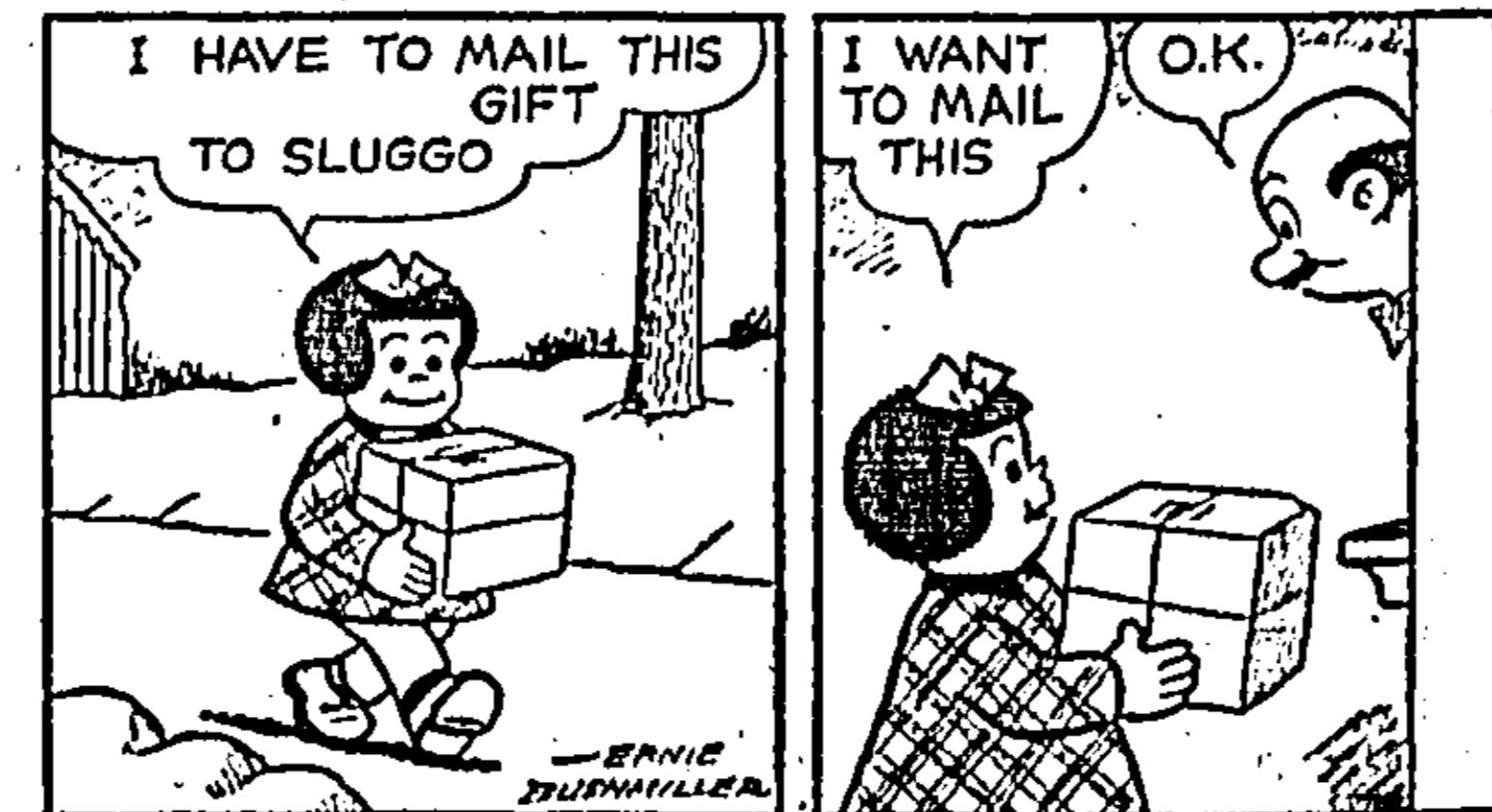
There are now 13 recognised breeds of pigs in Britain.

Suffolk Punches, one of Britain's most popular types of farm horses, which were once flat-footed, have been bred up to a firmer tread.

Domestic fowls have been bred from birds which once laid only a single clutch of eggs in a year.

The aim of modern farming appears to be the production of utility stock, which will save labour, give greater service, and provide more food.

NANCY Demanding Her Money's Worth



Politics and Personalities

— by —
"CROSS-BENCHER"

London, Feb. 1.
THE political flashpoint is Mr Bevan's quarrel with the doctors.

This is likely to have repercussions far beyond the question of the National Health Service.

That is why Mr Bevan fired his broadside against the plebsite now being taken. Knowing that the vote will go against him, he said it was being taken unfairly, before it even began.

What will happen then? Mr Bevan will in due course report to the Cabinet that he cannot carry on his plans.

The Cabinet will ask him to compromise. Mr Bevan is no compromiser. He will resign instead.

Then the Government's headaches really will begin.

Mr Bevan, freed from the trammels of office, is just the focal point for which the malcontents are looking.

He and Mr Dalton might even enter into an unholy alliance.

Mr Bevan would have you believe that the doctors are defying the Act of Parliament.

This is not so. The Act permits them to join the service or not, according to their wish.

On the terms Mr Bevan dictates they are quite reasonable in declining the offer.

But it is not the doctors who need worry. It is Mr Attlee.

Farce . . . tragedy

THE Geneva tariff agreements should have provided the most important debate of this session.

Here was the chance to state the Empire case. It developed into a crazy gang performance, with most speakers attacking their own side.

This was the inevitable result of the Opposition amendment which tried to ride two horses at once.

The Secretary for Overseas Trade, 40-year-old former L.M.S. railwayman Mr A. G. Bottomley, read every word of his sermon. And read it dully and unconvincingly.

Mr R. W. G. Mackay, Socialist M.P. for North-West Hull, made a penetrating analysis of the

ATTLEE'S WOULD-BE REBELS

situation, and voted for neither side.

Mr Norman Smith, Socialist M.P. for South Nottingham, voted against his leaders.

Mr Peter Thorneycroft's chief quarrel with Imperial Preference was that it has been ardently championed by Lord Beaverbrook.

It was the tail end of the pantomime season.

Mr Robert Boothby knew what he wanted and said it plainly. But the Empire found a champion in Mr G. Odey, the new Tory M.P. for Howdenshire.

In an excellent maiden speech he alone had the courage to point out that the times called for increased, not reduced, Imperial Preferences.

Left and Right

I WROTE recently of the impending split between the Right and the Left in the Socialist Party.

I understand the first skirmish has taken place.

The Socialist executive has considered the positions of Mr Zilliacus (Gateshead) for being too Left of the party line, and Mr Alfred Edwards (Middlesbrough East) for being too Right of it.

Mr Edwards is unconcerned. As a director of private enterprise founders he is too busy seeking new business in America to bother with such things.

Mr Zilliacus may be called upon to defend himself.

If his defense is as long-winded and wordy as his speeches and letters to the Press, the executive will be asleep before it is half-way through.

3 men, 1-seat

THREE dismissed Ministers have occupied the same seat, at the end of the bench below the gangway in the third row, on three successive days.

But their attitudes are very different.

Mr Dalton got there first. He believes it is only a temporary tenancy for him.

But he should not be too sure. The Government have gone from strength to strength since his departure.

Turned 40?—You may live till 70

BABIES born today in Europe enjoy a life expectancy nearly double that of their ancestors of 150 years ago.

For, according to Professor Dudley Kirk, of Princeton University, in a new book on Europe's population, the average duration of life has risen in that time from 35 years to 60.

Highest figure is achieved by the Netherlands, with 65.1 for males. Romania is at the bottom of the list with 40.2 years. For Britain the figure is just on 60.

A baby girl, European-born, starts with a life expectancy of one to six years greater than her brother.

In general, when Europeans reach 40, they can look forward to fulfilling the Biblical allotment of three-score-and-ten.

Commenting on the Netherlands longevity lead in the inter-war years, Professor Kirk says it was due to superior nutrition, highly developed public health programmes, stable economy, and well-educated population.

Religious influence in Europe's progress is also shown in births. Professor Kirk finds that Protestants and Jews usually have lower fertility than Roman Catholics.

But Vienna is an exception. Just before the war its birth-rate had sunk to 5.4 a thousand.

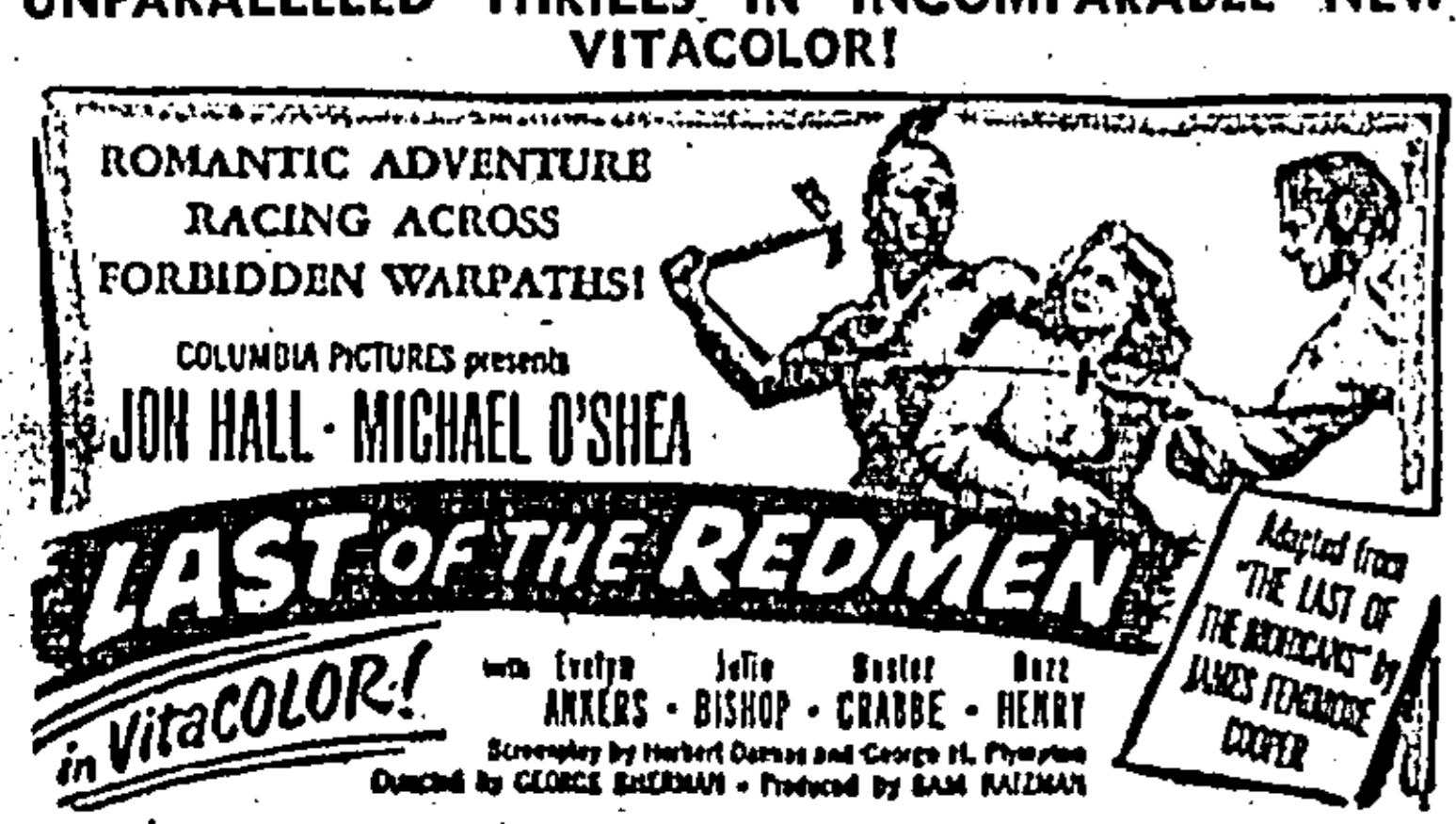
It is probably not accidental that Vienna, for so many years recognised as the centre of medical research, should have the lowest birth-rate in the world," says Professor Kirk.

Europe is now five times as densely populated as the rest of the world. By 1940 its population, excluding the Soviet Union, had grown to 400,000,000.

In another 15 years it is expected to reach 420,000,000, then begin to decline.

Bernard Drew

By Eric Bushmiller



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Directed by George Schaefer · Produced by Sam Katzman

Women
This Space Every Day

BEAUTY ARTS

By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Barbara Britton for Lois Leeds.

About Six Foot Girls and other interesting subjects.

DEAR LOIS LEEDS*

"Dear Lois Leeds—Should all women who are 5 ft. 7 in. tall weigh exactly the same? TOOTS."

No, the bone structure makes a great difference.

"Dear Lois Leeds—Is a girl who is six feet tall awkward-looking in a bathing suit?" NELL J.

No, the tall girls are the handsome bathing beauties.

"Dear Lois Leeds—Can any girl with a fair figure learn modelling? MOTHER."

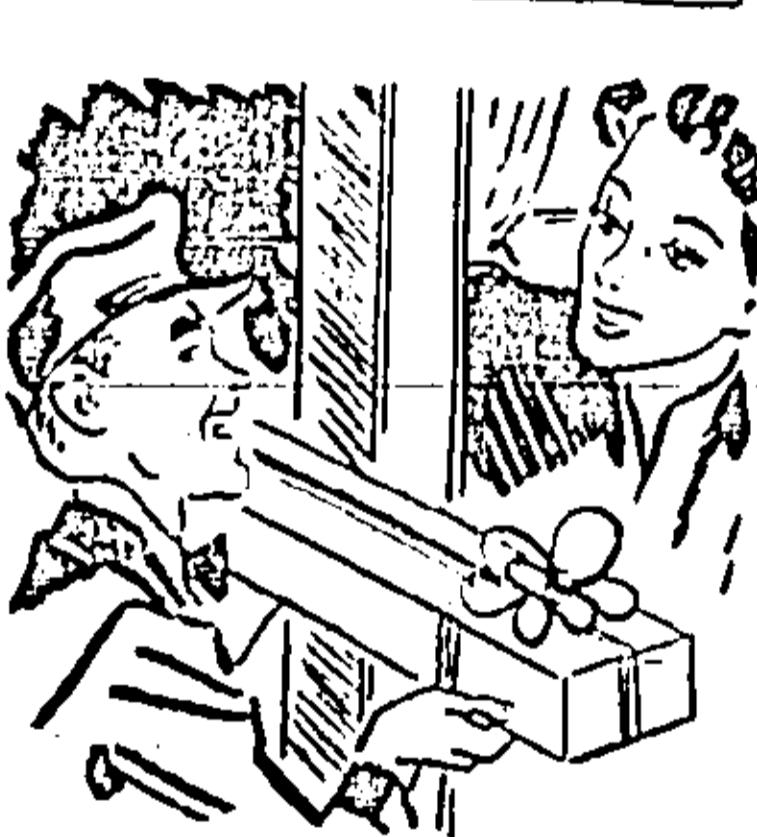
Yes, more and more schools are among that this programme is of tremendous value.

Antique—But Up-To-Date!

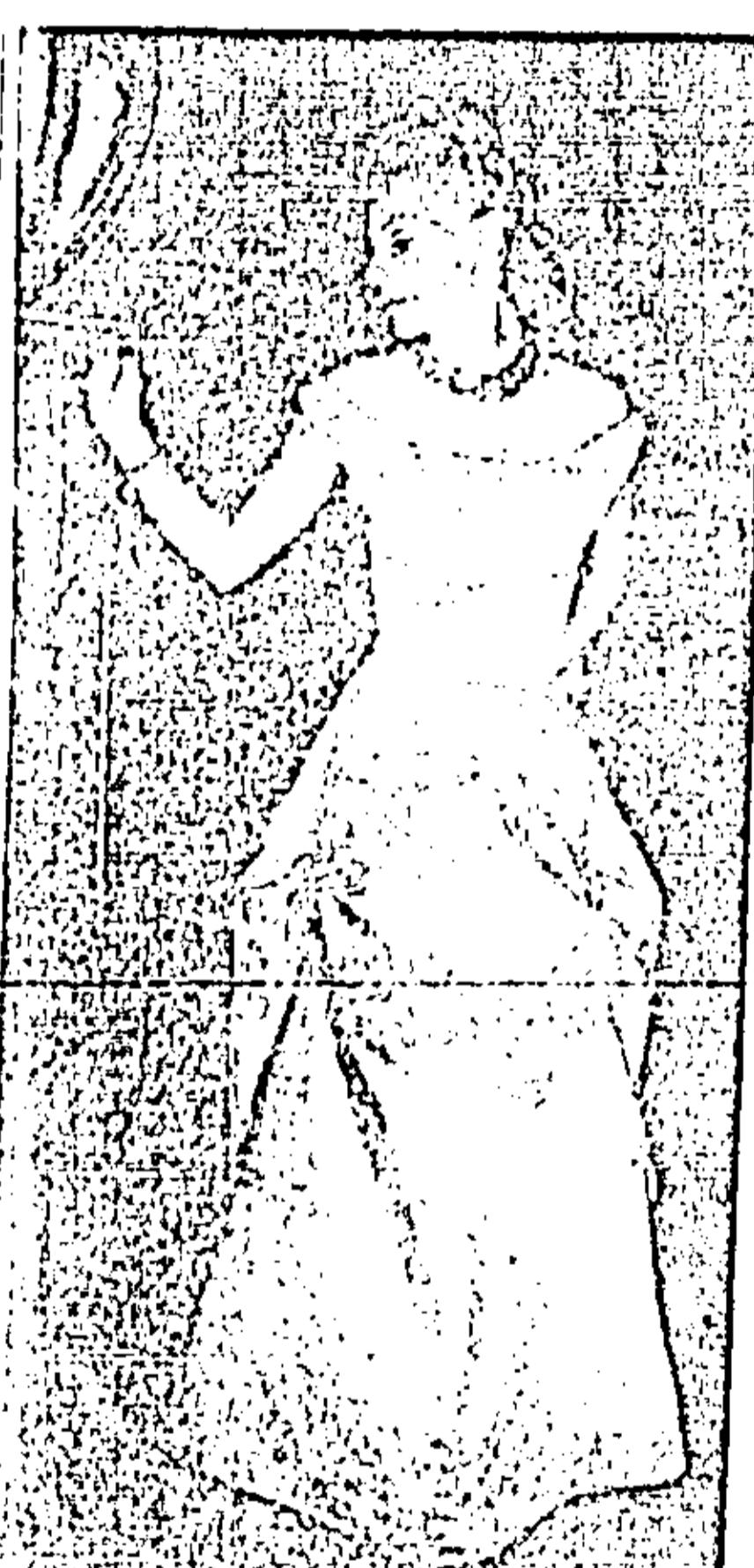
"Dear Lois Leeds—Do you approve of a teen-age girl who is pregnant working in an office for seven months?" MRS H.

No, women who need their jobs often have to continue to go to work. This is deplorable and it's

Off-white Makayos
by GABRIELLE



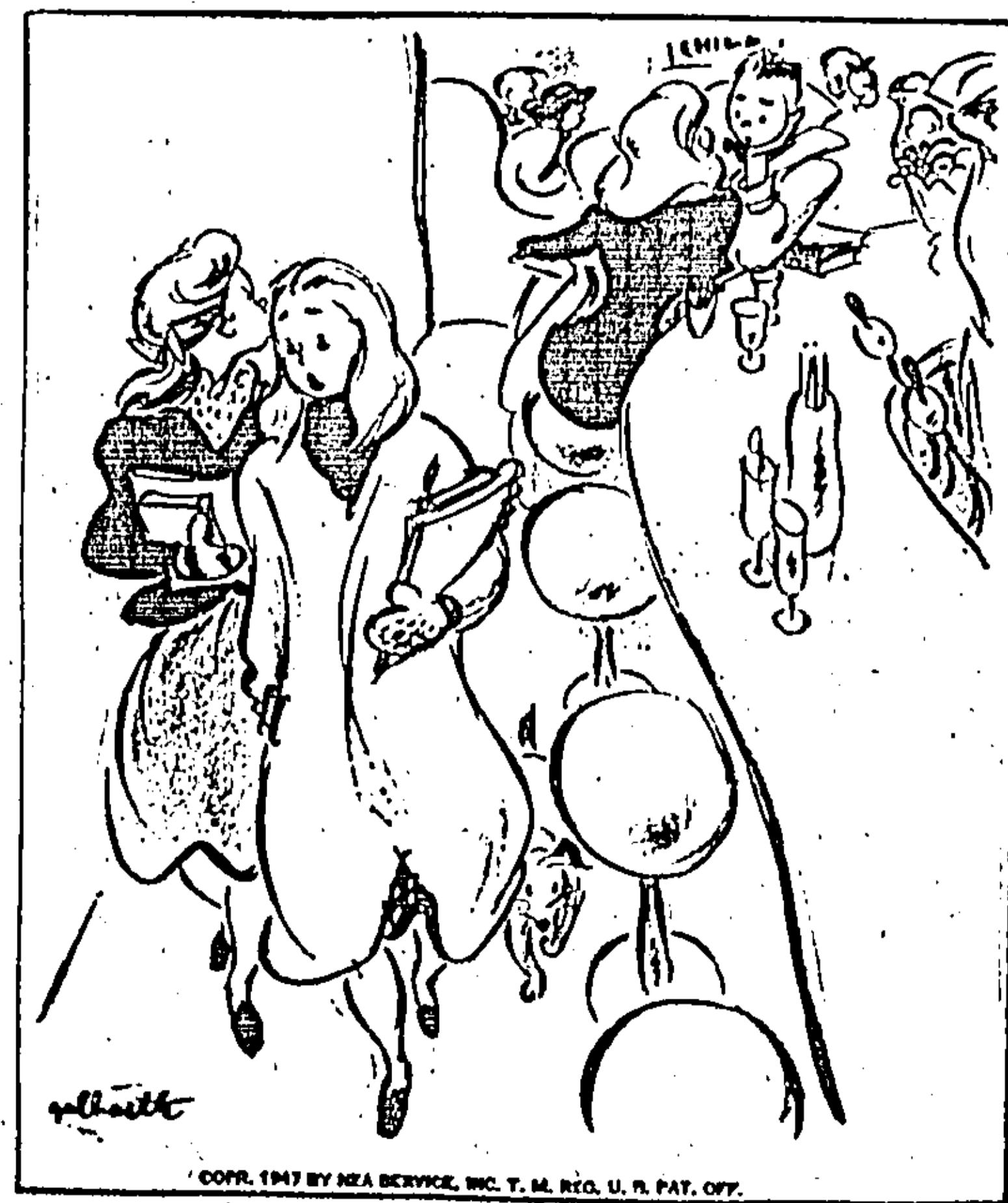
Remember little things; names, birthdays, one's favorite color, flower, hobby. It is so flattering to have people interested in you. It works both ways, of course! A sense of humor is important, too—to laugh at yourself but not at others. Personality is charm, it is being nice to people, being interested in listening, giving flattery sincerely. There's always something nice about people.



Madame Schiaparelli's models always smack of fancy and luxury. It is a pleasure to look at this beautiful, well-worked atlas dress with its oval chemise-cut and funny pouches which give the skirt the modern fullness.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"When I told him she was a senior he said he knew it—I guess you can't do much for a guy who likes old women!"

PLAN TO PREVENT YANGTSE FLOODS

A comprehensive plan to prevent the Yangtse, one of the largest rivers in the world and main artery of trade and commerce with Central China, from flooding, has been drawn up by a Dutch conservancy expert, Jan Ringers, says a Reuter report.

CONDENM SEX-THRILL MAGAZINES

Educationists meeting in London recently condemned comics, "sex-thrill" magazines, the happy-ending story, Just William and Dick Barton—and approved of adolescents having flirtations.

This is what they said:—

Filtration—Dr Marjorie Tait, organizing secretary, Union of Mixed Clubs and Girls' Clubs:

"An important experience in education for family life could be provided for adolescents by co-educational clubs which presented the right kind of opportunities for flirtation."

Comics—Radilo—Miss Crystal Herbert, editor of "Family," journalist and broadcaster: "My chief objection to comics is not that the contents are harmful, but that they are abominably illustrated, printed on bad paper, and the text is usually a mixture of American slang and English baby-talk."

I have a stronger objection to the lurid magazines full of romance and sex-thrill.

And I deplore the happy-ending story in women's magazines.

"I personally dislike 'Dick Barton' and 'Just William.'

Films—Miss Mary Field, Director of Children's Entertainment Films, G.B.L. Ltd.: "Films do play a disruptive part in family life."

Sees Cominform For Asia

Dr Theodore H. E. Chen, head of the University of Southern California's Asiatic Studies Department, believes it's only a matter of time until you will see in China an Asiatic counterpart of the Cominform.

"Communists in China are stronger and control more territory than ever before," Dr Chen said recently at a civic luncheon.

"Russia is not withdrawing, until native Communists arrived, made it possible for them to control nine-tenths of Manchuria," he said. "Since VJ-Day, Chinese Communists have destroyed more rail facilities than did the Japs during eight years of war."

"Until the Communist problem is solved, there will be more and more civil war and inflation in China," Associated Press.

BEES WENT ON A DRUNKEN SPREE

A honey of a scandal has broken about the bees in the Lower Rio Grande Valley, in Texas.

Instead of keeping their minds on honey-making, they are sipping too frequently at fermented dates.

The trouble starts when a bird picks at a date, puncturing the skin.

The date ferments and the bees knock off for a few quick ones.

They fall to the ground in a drunken daze. Often they do not get back to the hive at night, but remain at the tree for a drunken

White the fruit remains there is nothing much the bee farmer can do about it.

Check Your Knowledge

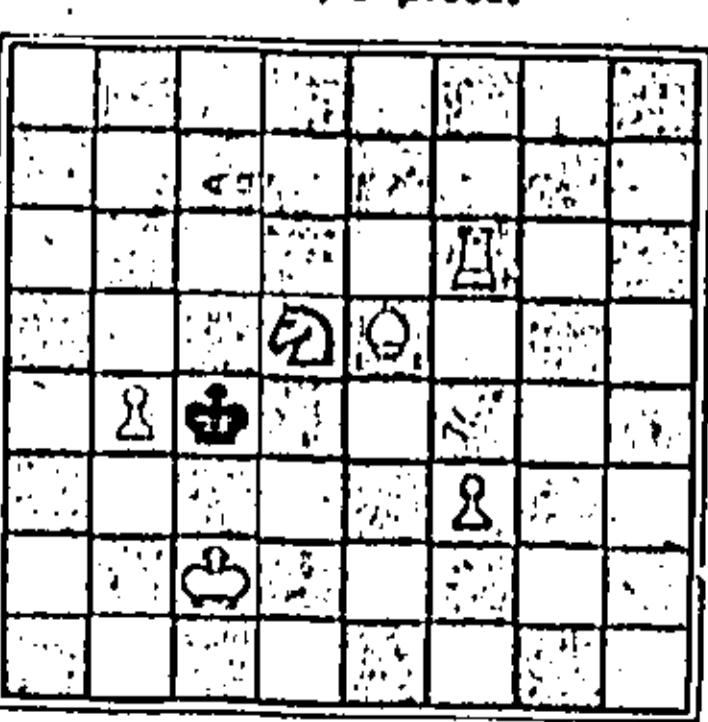
- How can the age of salmon be determined?
- Do animals grow during hibernation?
- What is felt composed?
- Where and when was petroleum discovered?
- What percent of a peanut is oil?
- What was probably the earliest form of writing implement?

(Answers on Page 4)

CHESS PROBLEM

By R. CLELAND

Black, 1 piece.



White to play and mate in three. Solution to yesterday's problem: 1, Q—K1#; any; 2, Q, or B mates.

The plan calls for full hydrological and geological data of the waterway, together with an exhaustive study of its vagaries.

It was drafted in a report made by Mr Ringers at the end of an assignment to the Yangtse River Commission of the Chinese Ministry of Water Conservancy.

The enormous area of the Yangtse River basin—600,000 square miles in all—its multiple branches and tributaries, the remote, little known land of its source, the breadth and importance of its riparian agricultural lands—all present problems unsurpassed in magnitude and complexity by the flood control work of any other region in the world, Mr Ringers declared.

In his first report, he included a long-term scheme for acquiring four vital classes of data to be ascertained, classified and checked over a number of years:

- Hydrology—Evaporation, condensation, and run-off.
- Meteorology—Weather conditions.
- Geology—Rock formation and substance throughout the vast region.
- Soil erosion.

Mr Ringers, who has had 10 years' experience of conservancy work on the dyke-bordered Rhine estuary, said that United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration geological and erosion specialists had added notably to the scanty and scattered store of vital information in this field.

As for hydrological and meteorological information, a programme involving the building of observatories and stations throughout the region, including Tibet, would have to be considered. Gauging stations to measure the volume of water, silt, and to mark water levels and clock currents were required at key river points.

But as many of the gauges were still being perfected in world laboratories, this aspect of the work might have delay.

Many Miles of Dykes

Afforestation, dyke work and dredging in addition would remove the perennial threat of flood, famine and disaster, Mr Ringers said. In his opinion, once information was available, the red could not be staggering.

In the region under the jurisdiction of the Yangtse River Commission proper, Mr Ringers said that 2,500 kilometres (over 1,500 miles) of dyke, of more than 16,000,000 cubic metres of earthwork or approximately equivalent to the volume of the Great Wall of China, had been thoroughly rebuilt.

Mr Ringers said that dyke repair work in China is equally as fascinating and often more complex than a similar work in Europe. Even a Dutch engineer, heir to age-long experiences in keeping his own lowlands dry, finds many new and baffling problems in river control work in China, he said.

MANILA RADIO TO EXPAND

The Securities and Exchange Commission of the Philippine Government has approved the increase in capital stock of the Manila Broadcasting Company from 200,000 pesos to 1,000,000 pesos.

The company operates stations KZRH and KZMB in Manila and KZRC in Cebu, and is developing outlets in other Philippine cities. It is affiliated with the National Broadcasting Company of the United States.—Associated Press.

Now he had to get over to his own hand in order to take the spade fitness, so he led the queen of hearts and overtook with the ace, to unblock the heart suit. There was also the possibility that if West had the king of hearts, he would cover. Ellis risked the loss of the king of hearts, went up with the ace, and was surprised when East dropped the king.

He had no further problems, as he simply picked up the trumps, went over to the ace of spades, and discarded his losing club on a diamond.

Thus, regardless of subsequent discussions as to which line of play had the best chance of winning, Ellis made seven odd.

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Then he had to decide whether to play East or West for the king of diamonds, on which East played the four and three of diamonds. Ellis felt sure that this play was made to fool him, and that East had another diamond, so he cashed the diamond queen.

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U.S.-SIAM MILITARY TALKS

Lausanne, Switzerland, Feb. 19.—A Siamese military mission will meet senior American officers for "important discussions" in Washington next month, a reliable Siamese source told the Associated Press today.

The mission will be headed by Major-General Luang Sura Narong, chief of the Siamese Army Intelligence Branch, who arrived in Lausanne this week for consultation with the Siamese King.

After the Washington conference, the mission will undertake similar discussions with Philippine Army officers in Manila, the source said. —Associated Press.

TRIPOLI CURFEW LIFTED

Tripoli, Feb. 19.—The curfew imposed in Tripoli on Tuesday, when British soldiers were called out to disperse Arabs demonstrating against the British military administration, was lifted today.

Fifty-two people, including the President of Kotla (the Arab Nationalist bloc) and its secretary, were arrested.

Conditions have returned to normal and the situation throughout Tripolitania was quiet. The state of emergency and the dusk-to-dawn curfew proclaimed after the disturbances was confined to Tripoli and not to the whole of the territory, as reported by an American news agency.

A British statement issued after the disturbances said that, in the course of a raid made on Tuesday morning on the headquarters of the Kotla Party, documents were found confirming reports of intimidation of sections of the Arab and Italian communities of Tripolitania in order to influence the evidence they might give to the four-power commission appointed to report on the former Italian colonies to the Foreign Minister's deputies.

"During the raid, a member of the Kotla Youth fired a shot at a British officer in the search party. Kotla supporters numbering 400 collected in the old city and moved towards the headquarters of the British military administration, and hysterically demonstrated against the arrest of their chief, Ali Fikri Hassan," the statement said. —Reuter.

Sport Around The World:

Gloucestershire Plans For Grace Centenary

Gloucester, Feb. 19.—Lt-Col H. A. Henson, secretary of the Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, has announced the special arrangements being made to celebrate the centenary of the birth of W. G. Grace.

The game with Derbyshire at Bristol on July 14, 15 and 16 will be observed as the Centenary Match ("W.G.") was born on July 18, 1848).

During the game the memorial plaque which is being erected at the main gate will be unveiled.

Also a souvenir brochure would be on sale, the proceeds for which would go to Tom Goddard's Benefit Fund.

It seems appropriate that the Grand Old Man of the present Gloucestershire XI should benefit from the tribute paid to the "G.O.M." of cricket of all time," said Colonel Henson.

Captain Henson also announced that the county ground at Bristol would be renamed "Grace's Ground" if there was sufficient evidence of public approval to the change.

The chairman and committee of Gloucestershire supported the change in name and considered it would be appropriate if the site was selected by W. G. Grace himself, and the ground was laid out under his personal supervision. —Reuter.

LOUIS-WALCOTT ROW

New York, Feb. 19.—Jersey Joe Walcott was today given an ultimatum by Joe Louis to sign up for the return world heavyweight contest "in two weeks or lose the fight."

Louis made this ultimatum after a new batch had developed in the negotiations for the fight, because Walcott has been asked for an undertaking that he will fight Louis for a third time. If the champion is beaten in the June encounter.

In the proposed contract for this third meeting, each contestant would receive 30 percent of the net takings. Walcott objected on the ground that he would have to fight three times before he could "get a champion's share of the gate."

Louis said that if Walcott does not sign for the return bout within two weeks, he will fight somebody else, "preferably Cas Lesnevich, world light-heavyweight champion."

In reply to this, Walcott said: "If Louis thinks that he can put over Lesnevich or anybody else as a challenger, and draw a \$1,000,000

Nehru Cabinet May Topple

BY ROBERT MILLER

Bombay, Feb. 19.—India without the frail but steady hand of Mahatma Gandhi faces a possible government crisis which may result in the resignation of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister, and Sardar V. Patel, Home Minister.

SABOTAGE ATTEMPTS IN IRAQ

London, Feb. 19.—Attempts have been made to destroy the main water pipes and electrical lines belonging to the British authorities at the British air base of Shishab, according to reports from Basra published by Baghdad newspapers.

The reports added that the Iraqi Governor of Basra province issued a communiqué that these installations belong to the Iraqi Government and any person destroying them will be arrested and severely punished.

Meanwhile, the political situation in Iraq remains unsettled. The popular movement is still pressing hard for realisation of demands which include the dissolution of parliament, solving of the bread-and-economic problems, withdrawing of state machinery to eliminate all elements of old political cliques and complete curbing of British influence over internal affairs.

Kurdish demonstrators representing the northern district, demonstrated in Baghdad on Wednesday, carrying slogans for the release of all Barzani tribesmen and their leaders gaoled since the Mulla Mustapha Barzani revolt.

Baghdad newspapers unanimously describe the present period as a "decisive test between popular power which is insisting on asserting its place and the clique of old politicians supported by British influence and a feudal system."—Associated Press.

Parliament Dissolved

Baghdad, Feb. 19.—The Iraqi Government tonight decided to dissolve Parliament "because it does not represent the nation and was illegally elected."

The Premier Syid Mohammed Al Sad, also the Minister of Defence, Arshad Umari, left tonight for Surak, in the northern mountain area, where the Regent is now on holiday, to seek his final approval.

The decision to dissolve Parliament was taken after a six-hour meeting, and it follows the recent political tension since the resignation of the former Premier, Saleh Jibril, after Iraq's rejection of the recently signed treaty with Britain.

Gandhi's assassination ended communalism, at least temporarily, or postponed open warfare between Pakistan and India. How long it will be possible for Moslems to walk the streets of India with safety or Hindus to show themselves in Pakistan, none knows; for hatred is deeply rooted and the whole country could erupt into another civil war overnight, but right now "love thy brother" is the main theme which none dares to violate as nationalism and communalism were blamed for Gandhi's death and are mighty unpopular theories right now in India.

There is a nation-wide feeling of optimism in India, which is thoroughly justified by the progress the country has made and by the seemingly overwhelming difficulties she has overcome in five months, but even greater economic and administrative problems are ahead and different ideas of combatting them may bring a long-rumoured split of the India Cabinet.

It is a question of ideologies, not personalities, which is forcing Nehru and his deputy Prime Minister farther and farther apart. Nehru, a Socialist, believes India's future is bright if the entire nation is placed on economic planning along Socialist lines. Patel, on the other hand, champions free enterprise and believes that the country's industrialists and businessmen should be given a free hand to build up capitalist investments which will return greater benefits to India than any Socialist schemes.

Gandhi was the only man capable of reconciling the two men, blending contrary ideas into compromises, but with his death none is able to harmonise the two schools of thoughts into a workable plan of action. Many authoritative sources believe that Nehru will be kicked upstairs into the Governor-General's job when Lord Mountbatten leaves in June.

Darkest Cloud

Both Patel and Nehru, unselfish government servants, are willing to step down if they believe they are hindering the country's future. Although Nehru is now the top man in the country, Patel holds more political power as he controls most of the voting machinery and is backed to the hilt by powerful political organisations throughout India.

The darkest cloud on India's horizon is the grim spectre of famine in some sections this summer. The riots last autumn in the Punjab, which is India's bread basket—and the migration of millions of Moslems, Hindus and Sikhs have resulted in neglected crops, failure to harvest and to replace untold millions of acres of rich farmland on which a large part of the country depends for foodstuffs. Already reports tell of cereal shortages in many areas, and even Bombay is on strict bread rationing.

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Serious Inflation

India today is a government of experiments, some of which are working and others are proving costly, useless luxuries. Prohibition probably will be universally applied to all India by the year's end. Already there are "dry days" and 100 percent liquor taxes are predicted.

Strikes by young organisations fighting their oats have handicapped the country, and the 45-day work stoppage of the Bombay Port Trust set up badly-needed imports and exports for a month and a half before subversive elements on both sides finally compromised.

There is a serious inflation in India, and prices of foodstuffs and commodities have crept upwards week after week. Eggs, meat and poultry are the latest examples of the price increases. Housewives complain that costs are twice as much as a year ago.

India's two throbbling political headaches are Kashmir and Hyderabad, either of which could easily bring India and Pakistan to war if either thought itself strong enough to fight. Land-locked Hyderabad continues to refuse pleas to abandon independence and join the Indian government.

Pressure On Hyderabad

Although no official action has been taken by a Democratic member in the House of Commons Committee today that Congress should formally support Mr. Ernest Bevin's plan for a united Europe.

The member, Mr. Boggs, urged that a clause be written into the preamble of the foreign aid bill saying: "Congress would look with favor upon a federation of the participating nations."—Reuter.

Inians from every walk of life admit their country is faced with many problems and big ones, but all are optimistic about solving them and proudly point to the nation's accomplishments since August 15 when it seemed that only a miracle could prevent continued chaos and anarchism.

A prominent publisher explained it this way: "Certainly we have a tough row. And things are going to be worse probably before they get better, and we do not have experience. We are going to make plenty of mistakes but, never forget, we are learning everything we err and everything we do we are doing for ourselves it is our government and our country now, not Britain's."—United Press.

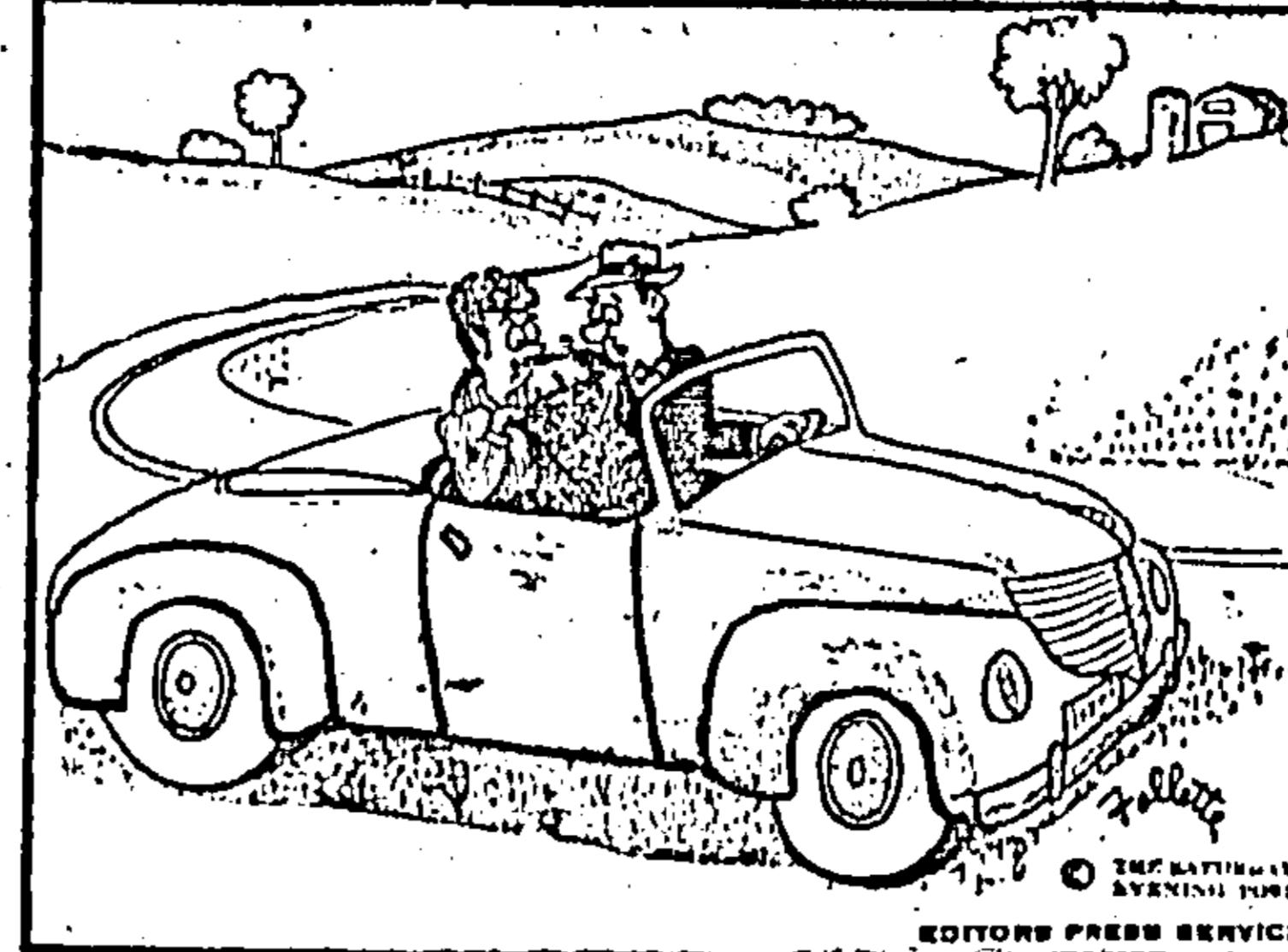
Chinese Soldiers Japan-Bound

Shanghai, Feb. 20.—Forty Chinese military police, all veterans of the Burma campaign and speaking both English and Japanese will leave for Japan today aboard the China Merchants steamer Haikang.

They will be the first Chinese armed forces to set foot on Japanese soil, and will do guard duties at Chinese establishments.

On board the same vessel will be 13 released Japanese war prisoners, 200 Japanese repatriates and two members of the Chinese Mission to Japan.

The 10,000-ton vessel will also take to Japan 500 tons of soybean powder and other raw materials forming part of the Central Trust's export cargoes to Japan.—Reuter.



"Why, what a coincidence! It just so happens that I've got a gallon tin of petrol in my purse."

Indonesian Leaders' Defence At Trial

Batavia, Feb. 19.—A claim that the sovereign government of the Republic of Indonesia had ceased to exist since the signing of the Linggadjati and Renville agreements with the Dutch was made by the defence today when the trial of 17 Indonesian revolutionary leaders began before a military high court at Jogjakarta, the Republican headquarters.

Nepal's First Envoy To U.S. At White House

Washington, Feb. 19.—General Kaisher Sham Shere Jung Bahadur Rama, the Nepalese Ambassador to Great Britain and Minister to the United States, called at the White House today to present his letters of credence to President Truman.

Explaining the somewhat unusual arrangement of one man being a diplomatic representative to two countries separated by the Atlantic Ocean, Rama said:

"To Nepal, Britain and the United States are largely one and the same thing. We regard Great Britain and the United States as one great Anglo-Saxon hegemony."

He said he would return to London and come back to the United States just as often as his diplomatic duties required him to do so.

Lincoln's Injunction

Presenting his credentials, Rama recalled that he last visited the United States in 1939 and remembered taking heart and hope from the inscription on the wall of the Lincoln Memorial: "Freedom shall not perish from this earth."

President Roosevelt, of "imperial memory," had succeeded in doing more than Lincoln's injunction and had laid the world under a debt of endless and immense gratitude, proving to the hilt that the American is as good as his word, if not better," he said.

The Minister said that a diplomat was sometimes described as an honest man sent abroad to live for the good of his country.

"In these days of growing global consciousness, I prefer to believe that an envoy is sent abroad to speak the truth, cost what it may, for the good of the globe."

Close Comradeship

"It will be my humble endeavour and particular care to promote better relations between the United States and Nepal, the mutual understanding and goodwill which arose out of close comradeship in many hard fought battles while defending the common frontiers of human liberty in lands other than our own."

President Truman expressed pleasure at the appointment of the Minister as the first Nepalese envoy to the United States.

"Your reputation for service to your country in both war and peace, and for your accomplishments as a representative of your Government in foreign capitals, has preceded your arrival in this country," President Truman said.—Reuter.

United Europe Plan Favoured

Washington, Feb. 19.—A proposal was made by a Democratic member in the House of Commons Committee today that Congress should formally support Mr. Ernest Bevin's plan for a united Europe.

The member, Mr. Boggs, urged that a clause be written into the preamble of the foreign aid bill

saying: "Congress would look with favor upon a federation of the participating nations."—Reuter.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. By examining their scales. Each scale shows growth rings similar to those of a tree. 2. No. 3. Wool hair and fur pressed together. 4. At Baku, Russian port on the Caspian Sea, more than 2,600 years ago. 5. 45 to 50 percent. 6. The atlas, a pointed piece of metal, bone or ivory used to imprint letters on tablets covered with wax.

Correction

It has been pointed out to us that the Telegraph's "Check Your Knowledge" on Wednesday was wrong in giving "The Maple Leaf For Ever" as Canada's National Anthem. The anthem is "O Canada."

Killing Of Partisans Not A War Crime

Nuremberg, Feb. 19.—Eight senior officers of the German Army who fought in the Balkans during the war were found guilty and two were acquitted here today by the American War Crimes Tribunal, which, however, held that the killing of captured members of "illegal partisan bands" was not a war crime.

Among those found guilty was Field Marshal Wilhelm List, who was accused of killing Jews and partisans in reprisals. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

General Walter Kuntze, found guilty of shooting hostages, was also sentenced to life imprisonment. The judgment, delivered by Judge Charles Frederic Wennerström, president of the tribunal, said that Balkan partisans could not be generally regarded as qualified for belligerent status under International law.

Franc Tiers

Members of these bands, in effect "franc tiers," had no right to be treated as prisoners of war.

The judgment also stated that the shooting of hostages was not in itself contrary to existing International law as used as a "last resort" by the occupying power in the defense of public order.

But excessive and inhuman application of this measure could constitute a crime.

In Washington, General Eisenhower declined to comment today on the ruling that shooting of captured partisans is not necessarily a war crime.

Generals To Appeal

He was asked for his views, as he declared in July 1944 that those guilty of shooting captured members of the French Forces of the Interior would be brought to justice.

"The General does not want to say anything on that at present," his aide said.

All eight German generals sentenced to prison terms will appeal to General Lucius D. Clay, the American Commander in Germany, the Supreme Military Tribunal in Washington and to the Supreme Court of the United States, counsel for Colonel General Lothar Rendulic announced after the findings were made known.—Reuter.

OUTWARD MAIRS

Unless otherwise stated, registered articles and parcel posts close 30 minutes earlier than the ordinary mail. If mail close before 10 a.m., registered and parcels will close at 5 p.m. previous day.

CLOSING TIMES BY AIR

Bangkok, Rangoon, Calcutta, Karachi, Lahore, Cairo (Nafir), Johannesburg & Marseilles via London C.P.O. 3 p.m.; (GPO) 3.30 p.m.

Saigon and Paris, 3.30 p.m.

Holloway, 3.30 p.m.

Nanking, 3.30 p.m.

Taiping, 3.30 p.m.

Swatow, Amoy and Foochow 2 p.m.

Macau, San Francisco (via Honolulu) 2 p.m